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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/829,645	04/09/2001	Kulbir S. Sandhu	M-9710 US	7663

7590 03/05/2002

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3662	

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/829,645	SANDHU ET AL.
	Examiner Gregory C. Issing	Art Unit 3662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____ .
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
- 4) Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Disposition of Claims

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____ .
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ .
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____ .
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Novik in view of Lemelson et al.

Novik teaches the subject matter substantially as claimed including (1) at least one vehicle comprising a GPS receiver, a vehicle transceiver for transmitting GPS data and receiving transmissions from a base station and a vehicle computer system that provides mapping and tracking applications and (2) a base station comprising a transceiver that receives the GPS data from the at least one vehicle and transmits text and graphics to the at least one vehicle, and a base station computer that includes a database and provides mapping and tracking applications and may be connected to the Internet. A plurality of vehicles can be tracked simultaneously. Thus, the base station obviously, if not inherently, receives and stores the locations of at least first and second mobile units. The system also is bi-directional in that the vehicle transmits location data to as well as receives information from the base station and the base station receives the location data as well as transmits information from its databases to the vehicle.

Novik differs from the claimed subject matter since he does not specify that the vehicle request location data from another vehicle.

However, Novik does teach instructions for locating a vehicle closest to an event on a displayed map which would suggest to someone skilled in the art that the position of the event is required to be provided to the base station as well as the position of the various vehicles in

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proximity to the event. This leads to selection and notification of the closest vehicle so that the closest vehicle can reach the location of the event (eg, a taxi ride). Thus, the base station receives information regarding the location of both the event (person requesting a taxi ride) and the proximate vehicles (taxis), selects the closest vehicle and notifies the selected vehicle of the position of the event. Additionally, Lemelson et al teach the conventionality in the art of vehicle monitoring and/or tracking, for a first vehicle to transmit its position to a base station which responsively communicates the positions of vehicles in the vicinity to the first vehicle so as to ascertain collision avoidance control. Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the tracking and monitoring system of Novik by incorporating vehicle transmission requests of proximate vehicles' locations so as to provide collision avoidance in view of the teachings of Lemelson et al. the dependent claims are shown and/or obvious design choices to the skilled artisan in the art of vehicle tracking/monitoring/collision avoidance.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Lin discloses a multi-tracking method and system that uses a data network such as a wireless Internet to communicate a first unit's GPS location to any other second unit in order for the second unit to track the first unit; each unit transmits its own location and receives other units' location. Tennison et al disclose a collecting and information processing system wherein each of a plurality of mobile platforms 10 communicates its position to a tracking server of a central controller 50 that stores the position in a database so as to provide a client 62 with the ability to track any one of the mobile platforms. Harrison et al discloses an apparatus that tracks mobile vehicles including a processing station that receives location data from the plurality of

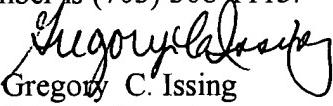
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mobile vehicles and a database that stores the location data. Mansell et al disclose a vehicle tracking and security system wherein each vehicle communicates its location to a control station that stores and monitors the movement of the vehicles as well as responds by dispatching the relevant service. Girerd et al disclose a client-server based remote locator device wherein each of a plurality of sensors 20 communicate location information to a server 10 which is connected to the Internet so as to allow remote clients' 1 the capability of tracking the location of the sensor. Elliot discloses in Figure 6, a vehicle 60 that transmits vehicle location data to a central transceiver 62 that responsively transmits the vehicle location data to other vehicles in the vicinity; the receiving vehicle then conveys the information to the motorist via audio or video alarms.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory C. Issing whose telephone number is (703)-306-4156. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 6:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Tarcza can be reached on (703)-306-4171. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-305-7687 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.


Gregory C. Issing
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3662

gci
March 4, 2002